B1

compressing process by said compressing means and storing the character signal generated by said generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal. --.

B2

-- 7. (Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein said memory means has a first area for storing a video signal an amount of which is to be compressed by said compressing means, a second area for storing a video signal an amount of which has been compressed by said compressing means, and a third area which is different from said first area and said second area, said generating means generating the character signal by using the third area --.

B3

-- 9. (Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein said memory means has a first area which is to be accessed by said compressing means, and a second area which corresponds to an image plane represented by the video signal and which is different from the first area, and wherein said generating means comprises memory control means for writing into said second area a plurality of codes representing a value of pixel data of the character signal, and a table for outputting pixel data corresponding to codes read out from said second area. --.

B4

-- 12. (Twice Amended) A signal processing device, comprising:

inputting means for inputting a video signal;

expanding means for expanding an amount of information of the video signal;

generating means for generating a character signal; and

memory means connected to each of said compressing means and said generating means and having a common memory for storing the video signal to perform an expanding process by said expanding means and storing the character signal generated by said generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal. --.

-- 16. (Amended) A device according to claim 12, wherein said inputting means for inputting the video signal reproduced from a recording medium by a reproduction device and writing the reproduced video signal into said memory means, said expanding means expanding an amount of information of the video signal written into said memory means by said inputting means. --.

-- 17. (Amended) A device according to claim 12, wherein said memory means has a first area for storing a video signal an amount of which is to be expanded by said expanding means, a second area for storing a video signal an amount of which has been expanded by said expanding means, and a third area which is different from said first area and said second area, said generating means generating the third character signal by using said third area. --.

-- 18. (Twice Amended) A device according to claim 12, wherein said memory means has a first area which is to be accessed by said expanding means, and a second area which corresponds to an image plane represented by the video signal and which is different from said first area, and wherein said generating means comprises memory control means for writing into said second area a plurality of codes representing a value of pixel data of the character signal, and a table for outputting pixel data corresponding to codes read out from said second area.

-- 20. (Twice Amended) A signal processing device, comprising:

inputting means for inputting a video signal;

processing means for performing a predetermined process on the video signal;

generating means for generating a character signal; and

memory means connected to each of said compressing means and said generating means and having a common memory for storing the video signal to perform the predetermined

B6

process by said processing means and storing the character signal generated by said generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal. –.

B7

– 22. (Amended) A device according to claim 21, wherein said memory means has a first area which is to be accessed by said high-efficiency encoding means, and a second area other than said first area, said generating means generating the character signal by using the second area. –.

B8

– 24. (Amended) A device according to claim 23, wherein said memory means has a first area which is to be accessed by said high-efficiency encoding means, a second area which is to be accessed by said error correction encoding means, and a third area other than said first area and said second area, said generating means generating the character signal using said third area. –.

B9

– 26. (Amended) A device according to claim 25, wherein said memory means has a first area which is to be accessed by said high-efficiency decoding means, and a second area other than said first area, said generating means generating the character signal by using said second area. –.

B10

– 28. (Amended) A device according to claim 27, wherein said memory means includes a first area which is to be accessed by said high-efficiency decoding means, a second area which is to be accessed by said error correction decoding means, and a third area other than said first area and said second area, said generating means generating the character signal by using said third area. –.

– 29. (Twice Amended) A recording apparatus, comprising:

inputting means for inputting a video signal;

compressing means for compressing an amount of information of the video signal;

recording means for recording on a recording medium the video signal the amount of which has been compressed by said compressing means;

generating means for generating a character signal; and